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## A New CIA Director

The retirement of Richard Helms from the Central Intelligence Agency at 60 years of age represents an end to the era of professionalism in the CIA. His successor James R. Schlesinger is a capable economist and student of strategic studies, but he is not an up through the ranks director of espionage.

Helms dates back to the long regime of Allen Dulles, who himself came out of the fabled Office of Strategic Services of World War II. Thus a long chain is being broken, and we would be hopeful that it does not represent the politicization of the CIA.

Helms retirement appears to be just that because he has often urged that members of the agency retire at 60 and he is doing the same thing.

The new director is considered to be a systems manager which is quite a different thing from one who has a flair for the peculiar business of intelligence, or an individual who by long experience knows when to play a hunch. It will therefore be a different CIA; if it can be as effective under the new director as the old, the nation will be well served.